

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the unexpected and sudden death of apparently healthy babies, of which no cause of death can be found after an autopsy and death scene investigation, is one of the leading causes of death in Louisiana for infants under one year of age. Nationally, SIDS claims the lives of between 2000 and 3000 babies each year, approximately one baby for every thousand born; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the American Academy of Pediatrics provide recommendations for safe sleep positions and environmental factors that may help reduce the risk for SIDS; and
- WHEREAS,** infants in Louisiana continue to die from SIDS, and caregivers are unaware of risk reduction practices, including placing babies on their backs to sleep, choosing safe bedding, keeping babies from overheating, choosing breastfeeding when possible, and creating tobacco-free environments; and
- WHEREAS,** increasing public awareness among all Louisiana parents and infant caregivers on the importance of creating a safe sleep environment has great potential for saving lives.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim October 2005, as

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

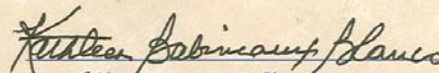
in Louisiana, and urge citizens to practice SIDS risk reduction and safe sleep recommendations to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep related infant deaths.



Attest By
The Governor


Secretary of State

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 1st day of November
A.D., 2005*


Governor of Louisiana